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1915

Burnett, Samuel Clarke

A Toast on
New Haven

To Whom It May Concern:—

At the 25th Anniversary Dinner of the Harvard Class of 1880 a man from the West recited—

Here's to old Massachusetts,
The home of the sacred cod,
Where the Adamses vote for Douglas,
And the Cabots walk with God.

These lines struck the fancy of Dr. John C. Bossidy, Warren Chambers, 419 Boylston Street, Boston, and he wrote the following, which he recited at the annual mid-winter dinner of the Alumni of the Holy Cross College:

And this is good old Boston,
The home of the bean and the cod,
Where the Lowells talk to the Cabots
And the Cabots talk only to God.

A slightly different form of this quatrain reached me shortly after, and, writing to Dean F. S. Jones, of Yale University, in January, 1915, I cited it as something which I thought would interest him. Thinking I was the author, he immediately replied as follows:

Yale College,
New Haven, Conn.
January 20, 1915.

Dear "Sam" Bushnell:

(Tear this up)

A Toast on New Haven
Lux et Veritas

Here's to the town of New Haven,
The home of the Truth and the Light,
Where God talks to Jones
In the very same tones,
That he uses with Hadley and Dwight.

Heavy charges on this, but they are cancelled.

As ever your

Fred S. Jones.

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1915

Gift
S. C. Bushnell
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Rev. S. C. Bushnell,

11 Maple Street,

Arlington, Mass.

On the 5th of February, 1915, I attended the Second Annual Dinner of the Yale Alumni Association of the Naugatuck Valley at the Elton House in Waterbury, Conn., as one of the invited guests. When called upon to speak I said yes,—

I come from good old Boston,
The home of the bean and the cod,
Where the Cabots speak only to the Lowells,
And the Lowells speak only to God.

I then said that I had recently heard these lines in Boston, and, writing to Dean Jones, sent a copy of them to him. He immediately came back with the following:

Here's to the town of New Haven,
The home of the Truth and the Light,
Where God talks to Jones
In the very same tones,
That he uses with Hadley and Dwight.

This brought down the house. It was accurately reported by the Waterbury American of February 6, 1915, and copied by newspapers all over the land.

My present concern is that Dr. Bossidy should have the credit of the authorship of the lines which many have wrongly attributed to me.

Samuel C. Bushnell,

24 Ogden Street,

New Haven, Conn.

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